



REMARKS

Claims 1-53 are in this application, of which Claims 1, 18, 19, 39-41, 46, 48 and 50 are in independent form. Claims 1-45 have been allowed. Claims 46-53 have been added to ensure Applicants of a full measure of protection. Favorable action is requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement and a corresponding PTO-1449 form were submitted on September 30, 2004, as evidenced by the returned receipt postcard bearing the stamp of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, a copy of which is attached hereto. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to return an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form, indicating that the references listed thereon have been considered and made or record in the present application.

Early and favorable continued examination of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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